

A RESOLUTION

2003-27-27

EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE REINSTITUTION OF VIA ROUTES 54, 70, AND MODIFICATION OF ROUTES 522 AND 603, AS WELL AS THE IMPLEMENTATION OF A NEW TOURISM ROUTE UTILIZING A PORTION OF VIA'S CITY OF SAN ANTONIO ALLOCATION FOR STREET MAINTENANCE, AS REQUESTED BY COUNCILWOMAN PATTI RADLE, DISTRICT 5.

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WHEREAS, the City of San Antonio and VIA maintain a close working relationship as a result of VIA's provision of transit services to our citizens and the significant impact which this service has on the City's street infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, this collaboration was evidenced in 1998 when VIA adopted a resolution whereby our transit authority established a Local Assistance Program to provide funding to the City of San Antonio to help defray our expenses in maintaining streets; and

WHEREAS, City projects eligible to receive reimbursement from this fund must be directly related to improving the streets in bus lanes, bus pads and intersections; and

WHEREAS, due to budget constraints VIA decided in 2001 to discontinue the allocation of money into this fund, although as of July 2003, the fund contains a balance of approximately \$2.1 million dollars; and

WHEREAS, with the input of the community given at numerous public forums, VIA has recently completed a Comprehensive Service Plan (CSP), which recommends that: 1) VIA Bus Routes 54 and 70- be eliminated; and 2) VIA implement a new tourist route connecting the San Antonio Zoo, Brackenridge Park, Witte Museum, and the Botanical Gardens; and

WHEREAS, the elimination of these two bus routes will cause a substantial negative impact on the citizens residing in the West side of San Antonio who rely heavily on bus transportation in general, and in these bus routes in particular; and

WHEREAS, City Council supports the reinstitution of VIA Bus Routes 54 and 70, modification of Routes 522 and 603 to cover that portion of Huebner Road previously served by Route 96, as well as the implementation of a new tourist trolley route connecting the San Antonio Zoo, Brackenridge Park, the Witte Museum, and the Botanical Gardens, and

WHEREAS, City Council further supports utilizing, on a one-time basis, the amount of \$466, 118.00 in Local Assistance Program funds for these purposes, provided VIA

incorporates these routes into their upcoming fiscal year operational budget and resumes the reimbursement to the City of funds for the City's street infrastructure program; **NOW THEREFORE:**

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SAN ANTONIO:

SECTION 1. The City Council hereby expresses its support of the continuation of VIA Bus Routes 54 and 70, modification of Routes 552 and 603 to cover that portion of Huebner Road previously served by Route 96, the implementation of a new tourist trolley route connecting the San Antonio Zoo, Brackenridge Park, the Witte Museum, and the Botanical Gardens, and the funding of these actions, on a one year basis, utilizing the sum of \$466,118.00 in VIA Local Assistance Program funds.

SECTION 2. City staff is directed to take all steps necessary to obtain reimbursement of \$1,400,000.00 sought by the City from VIA for the 2001 Local Assistance Program projects so as to further the street infrastructure program.

SECTION 3. This Resolution shall become effective on the tenth (10th) day after the passage hereof.

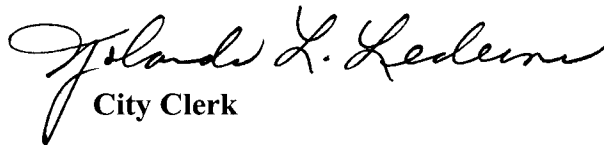
PASSED AND APPROVED on this the 7th day of **August**, 2003.



M A Y O R


EDWARD D. GARZA

ATTEST:



City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



for City Attorney